



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
www.samhsa.gov

Prevention Fellowship Program

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) and the States have a critically important opportunity to share in cultivating a new work force for prevention throughout the United States. A fellowship program specific to substance abuse prevention, with an annual award up to \$35,000 per State, is being made available to each State, the District of Columbia, the Coalition Institute, and the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, and will become the SAMHSA/CSAP Prevention Fellowship Program. The purpose of this program is to provide professional development opportunities for prevention specialists and to promote and institutionalize the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) concept as the national overarching vehicle for prevention planning, program development, and prevention service delivery. The Strategic Prevention Framework is designed to advance community-based programs for substance abuse prevention.

While promoting the SPF for planning, development, and delivery of prevention services, prevention fellows will be exposed to a myriad of activities specific to prevention. These areas include:

- Substance abuse prevention across the life span;
- Community prevention planning and service delivery at the State and community level, including coalition building;
- Data, evaluation, and alcohol and drug epidemiology;
- Environmental prevention strategies, systems change and service delivery; and
- Social marketing as it relates to prevention.

CSAP promotes a comprehensive prevention system approach that includes community involvement and partnership among all sectors of society. This approach promotes and enhances SAMHSA activities to achieve the following goals: Assure services availability, meet unmet and emerging needs, and bridge the gap between knowledge and practice. CSAP's mission is to decrease substance use and abuse by bringing effective prevention to every community. Participants in the Prevention Fellowship Program are expected to become stewards of effective prevention practices in the future.

Application Specifications

Applicants to the Fellows Program must describe their experience and interests in substance abuse prevention in an application that includes a one-page essay. In the essay, applicants must show a match of their interests to the State's needs and priorities described in the application. They must demonstrate a fit between their interest and the State's needs and priorities. Life-long goals related to prevention, beyond the fellowship program, should be discussed as much as possible. Participating States will conduct outreach activities to minority communities and institutions of higher learning and to ensure a pool of racially, culturally, and geographically diverse applicants.

The Fellowship Experience

During the term of the fellowship, the State must provide the fellow office space, a computer, and telephone. A mentor in the prevention field should be designated and provide consultation and oversight of fellow's activities. The mentor will collaborate with the fellow in developing a Fellowship Accomplishment Plan specifying planned and desired work experiences and training activities for the time in which the fellow serves. This Plan will be developed during a one-month planning period with the mentor. Fellows will be required to submit a quarterly progress report describing achievements and lessons learned and attend technical assistance and seminars provided by CSAP and the States.

For more information, contact Wil L. Hardy at CSAP, e-mail Wilbert.Hardy@samhsa.hhs.gov or phone 240-276-2561, and the State Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse in the attached directory.